Northwood United Church

**Job Description for Pianist**

**Overview**

Northwood United Church in Surrey is seeking an addition to our music ministry. This part-time position will provide a variety of piano, and optionally organ, music on Sundays, as well as accompanying our church choir during rehearsals, during services, and at other special church events. Northwood is a fully inclusive Christian community who actively shapes its ministries to welcome all (age, sexuality, theology). We are seeking a person who can help our aging congregation gently shift our music liturgy to appeal to a broad age demographic.

**Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

* Be a Christian committed to using his/her gifts in the services of the church and to be a musical leader willing to work with church members, staff and committees.
* Have a passion for music, and ability to play piano, and organ (optional), at an advanced level.
* Be able to sight read music at an advanced level.
* Be a team player and a people person, willing to work with a variety of musical styles and with players of other instruments such as guitar, flute, drums, etc.
* Have experience as a choral accompanist and be able to work with a choir director.
* Be available to play for Sunday services, special services (Holy Week, Christmas Eve, etc) and accompany soloists.
* Be available to play for choir practice/rehearsals which are usually on Thursday evenings (7:30 – 9pm).

**Responsibilities**

In consideration of the fee stipulated by the Ministry and Personnel Committee, under the functional direction of the Worship Ministry team, and in consultation with the Coordinating Minister, the responsibilities of the Pianist is as follows:

1. Provides strong musical leadership in the congregational singing of the hymns and responses by playing the piano (and organ) at all regular Sunday morning services including all months with 5 (five) Sunday’s
2. Extra services would include any evening services, as well as any Holy Week services and Easter Sunday Sunrise Service. The fee paid for these services is in additional to the regular Thursday evening and Sunday agreement and is set by the Board of Northwood United Church.
3. Be aware this position is entitled to the first right of refusal to play the organ and/or piano at weddings, funerals, celebrations of life, etc. The fee paid for this service is independent of the contract and is set by the Board of Northwood United Church.
4. Arrive at least 30 (thirty) minutes prior to the start of worship services for practice with the choir and other preparation for worship. She/he will start the prelude and/or congregational singing 10 (ten) minutes before the start of the service.
5. Be available to assist ministerial staff in selecting and preparing music for worship
6. Provide music leadership and collaboration that spans a range of styles from traditional to contemporary to innovative, using a variety of resources
7. Prepare and play music for weekly service, including preludes, offertories meditative music, postludes and other incidental music.
8. Accompany adult choir and attend choir practices, usually on Thursday evenings.
9. Understand that this position is entitled to vacation pay at 4 (four) % of salary.
10. Be aware that the position is entitled to up to 4 (four) weekly sessions (Thursday night and Sunday) of unpaid time off with a minimum of 3 (three) weeks’ notice given to the liaison person on the Worship Committee. This entitlement does not carry over to subsequent years. For the purposes of this clause, a year runs from September 1 to August 31.
11. Study and improve musical knowledge skills and repertoire by attending appropriate workshops and/or retreats with a workshop allowance of up to $600.00 per annum.
12. Take advantage of being invited and welcome to attend meetings of the Worship committee.

**Other**

This job description will be in place until superseded or changed by the Ministry and Personnel committee, in consultation with the incumbent.

Compensation, commensurate with qualifications, is paid per event, and will be reviewed periodically by Ministry and Personnel committee. Compensation must be approved by Northwood Board. The position is part time term in nature and as such provides no benefits. An average week is likely to require 4-6 hours of commitment between Thursday evening and Sunday morning duties. Choir does not meet or practice during July and August.

Supervision of this position is provided by Ministry and Personnel, with regular input and guidance from the Coordinating Minister, Choir Director and the Worship committee.

Northwood United Church – Pianist

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We are currently recruiting for a part-time contract for a Pianist. Hours are approximately 4 -6 hours per week, including Thursday evening choir practice and Sunday morning services.

This is a part-time permanent position with a start date of October 4th, or sooner.

Compensation will be commensurate with qualifications.

The full job description is attached or can be reviewed at [www.northwood-united.org](http://www.northwood-united.org)

Please submit your expression of interest, cover letter and resume to office@northwood-united.org

Only those considered for employment will be contacted.